

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY OF THE CITY OF JASPER
JULY 24, 2012**

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Jasper, Indiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, July 24, 2012, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street.

CALL TO ORDER

Presiding Officer Mayor Terry Seitz called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm then called the roll:

Mayor Terry Seitz	Present
Board member Timothy Bell	Present
Board member David Prechtel	Present

Also present were Police Chief J. Michael Bennett, Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle, City Engineer Chad Hurm, Personnel/Safety/Loss Control Director Cale Knies, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Kenneth Hochgesang, Building Commissioner/Zoning Administrator Darla Blazey, City Attorney Renee Kabrick, and Clerk-Treasurer Juanita Boehm.

Clerk-Treasurer Boehm announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the board members must be present. All three board members were present; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Seitz invited all those present to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The board members examined the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 10, 2012. Thereafter, a **motion** was made by David Prechtel and seconded by Timothy Bell to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

STREET STANDARD MODIFICATION

Nathan Waggoner with Cash and Waggoner Associates and representing Northwood Good Samaritan requested a variance from the road standards to a 32' face to face width for the Summit Heights Addition.

City Engineer Chad Hurm said the street width standard is 40' face to face. In 2010, the City modified the street standards to include narrower streets. The narrower width is 35' which includes two, 12' driving lanes, 8' for parking, and 2, 18" gutter pans. Hurm said Waggoner is asking for a modification to the 2010 standards. Hurm also said he thinks the streets need to be wider for bigger trucks such as the trash and recycling trucks and in this subdivision it also needs to be wider for delivery trucks.

Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle said he thought the streets would be addressed when this addition is replatted. Building Commissioner Darla Blazey said they are trying to get a variance from the street standards so they will know how to proceed for the replat.

There was some discussion as to why Good Samaritan needs to have smaller width streets than the standards particularly when the standards were modified in 2010 to allow for narrower streets.

Mayor Seitz said no one from the City has said they are fine with this variance request and the City appears to have some concerns. Seitz said he feels there needs to be more internal discussion before City officials can make a recommendation to the Board regarding the request.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Seitz and seconded by David Prechtel to table the variance request made by Good Samaritan. Motion carried 3-0.

REMINDERS

Mayor Seitz wanted to remind the public on a few issues. He noticed some people are not following the odd/even street address and date of the month regarding the watering schedule. The mandatory water conservation measures are still in effect.

He also said the City is still under the Local Emergency Disaster Declaration and there is a county-wide burn ban.

He reminded everyone that stages and booths are beginning to be set up for the Strassenfest and asks for everyone's cooperation.

ST CHARLES STREET SPEED STUDY

City Engineer Chad Hurm said a bidirectional speed study was conducted in two locations on St. Charles Street on July 19, 2012. One study area was located across from 2270 St. Charles Street while the other was near 3249 St. Charles Street. He then presented the results of the study from the 2270 St. Charles Street area. The northbound lane indicated that both the average speed and the 85th percentile speeds have stayed consistent with past studies. The speeds are 29.85 miles per hour and 34 miles per hour respectively. The southbound lane results show the average speed to be 31.70 miles per hour with the 85th percentile showing 37 miles per hour.

He then presented the results of the study near 3249 St. Charles Street. The northbound lane indicated that both the average speed and the 85th percentile speeds have also stayed consistent with past studies. The speeds are 31.61 miles per hour and 35 miles per hour respectively. The southbound lane results show the average speed of 32.92 miles per hour and the 85th percentile speed is 37 miles per hour.

Both sets of results fall within the limits allowed for setting the speed limit at 30 miles per hour. In addition, the traffic counts show that approximately 4900 vehicles use the street on a daily basis (approx. 1,800,000 vehicles per year).

Based on the design of the roads and the results of the study, Hurm said he does not feel the speeds are the only reason for the accidents. He recommended that the speed limit remain unchanged and the situation continues to be monitored.

David Prechtel asked if the center turn lane could be eliminated except where needed, thereby, with wider driving lanes, drivers would drive closer to the center line and maybe some accidents could be avoided. Hurm said he spoke with a representative from an engineering firm regarding this matter and they said from their experience the wider the driving lanes, the faster people drive.

It was the consensus of the Board to accept the recommendation of the city engineer and not change the speed limit on St. Charles Street at this time.

PERFORMANCE BOND KNUST FIRST ADDITION

City Engineer Chad Hurm received a request from Charles Knust, developer of Knust First Addition, to extend the performance bond for this subdivision for six months. This two lot subdivision is located at the corner of Third Avenue and Meridian Road. Hurm said according to the developer, they are in the process of finalizing things with the contractor to extend the sewer line. The City has received a new letter of credit and is waiting for an updated performance bond.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Seitz and seconded by Timothy Bell to extend the performance bond for six months for Knust First Addition contingent upon receiving an updated performance bond by July 31, 2012. Motion carried 3-0.

STRASSENFEST CLEAN-UP

Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle asked for the public's help to clean-up their property for the upcoming Strassenfest. The street department will do what they can along with businesses and homeowners to beautify portions of the City. When the weeds and grass are removed from the curbs and sidewalks, it makes a better presentation of our community.

QUOTES FOR SEAL COATING PARKING LOTS

At the last meeting, quotes to seal coat certain City-owned parking lots were taken under advisement. After reviewing the quotes, Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle recommended accepting the low quote submitted by Pavement Sealing Company for \$57,892.12.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Seitz and seconded by David Prechtel to accept the quote from Pavement Sealing Company for \$57,892.12 to seal coat 68,191 sq. yds. of City-owned parking lots. Motion carried 3-0.

REPORTS

Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle gave an update on certain projects such as the widening of Division Rd., the installation of sidewalks along Main Street, the milling and paving of Main Street, and the Maplecrest storm sewer project.

Eckerle said the balance of the 2012 road salt the City ordered on July 5, 2012 is arriving today. It will be stored in a previously arranged area at the power plant.

He then reported the Upper Patoka River Conservancy District will be removing some trees from Patoka River. Since the City is not a part of the district, they will bill us to remove the trees that are in the portion of the river that lays within the city limits.

HIGH WEED COMPLAINTS

Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Kenneth Hochgesang reported to the board the names of property owners and the locations that have been cited under 5.12.040 weed removal/notice. The names and locations are as follows:

Owner: S Corporation Inc. 2201 Sherwood Ave. Charlotte, NC 28207
Location: Lot 10th & Emily, Replat Arbor Place Lot 1

FIREFIGHTER RESIGNS

Mayor Seitz read a letter of resignation submitted by Volunteer Firefighter Jonathan Ryan Benner effective July 20, 2012. Last Wednesday was Benner's one year anniversary with the department.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Seitz and seconded by Timothy Bell to accept the resignation of Jonathan Ryan Benner. Motion carried 3-0.

FIREFIGHTER STATUS CHANGE

Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang said Volunteer Firefighter Nicholas Meyer has completed his one year probationary period with the fire department. He asked the Board to approve changing his status from probationary firefighter to regular firefighter.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Seitz and seconded by David Prechtel to change the status of Nicholas Meyer from probationary to regular firefighter. Motion carried 3-0.

TURN-OUT GEAR QUOTES

Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang presented the following quotes for ten sets of turn-out gear for the fire department:

Towers Fire Apparatus Co., Inc.	\$1,653.00 per set
Mid America Fire & Safety	\$1,675.00 per set
Lion	\$1,870.00 per set

Hochgesang said they saw samples of the gear and they all meet the standards. He recommended accepting the low quote submitted by Towers Fire Apparatus Co., Inc.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Seitz and seconded by Timothy Bell to accept the quote from Towers Fire Apparatus Co., Inc. for ten sets of turn-out gear at \$1,653.00 per set. Motion carried 3-0.

WATER USE EXEMPTION

Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang said each year the fire department washes down the beer garden area at the end of the Strassenfest. Since the mandatory water conservation declaration is in place, he questioned whether the department was allowed to perform that service this year.

Mayor Seitz said as Mayor he has the authority to grant such exemptions. Because of health and safety reasons, he then granted the fire department an exemption to wash down the beer garden area at the end of the Strassenfest.

SURPLUS PRINTER

Building Commissioner Darla Blazey asked the Board to declare an old printer, Asset #100319, surplus. The item will be placed in a future City auction.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Seitz and seconded by David Prechtel to declare Asset #100319, a Kyocera printer, as a surplus item. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the board, a **motion** was made by Timothy Bell and seconded by David Prechtel to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

The minutes were hereby approved ____ with X without corrections or clarification this 14th day of August, 2012.

Mayor Terry Seitz
Presiding Officer

Attest:

Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer